



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/699,058	10/27/2000	Steven G. Doughty	5053-31201/EBM	6721

7590 04/07/2005  
ERIC B. MEYERTONS  
CONLEY, ROSE & TAYON, P.C.  
P. O. BOX 398  
AUSTIN, TX 78767-0398

EXAMINER

COLBERT, ELLA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3624

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/699,058

**Applicant(s)**

DOUGHTY ET AL.

**Examiner**

Ella Colbert

**Art Unit**

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>28 December 2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 14-16 are newly submitted claims in this communication filed 12/28/04 entered as Response After Non-Final Action.
2. The IDS filed 07/12/02 has been considered and entered.
3. The Objection to the Abstract has been overcome by Applicants' Amendment and is hereby withdrawn.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (US 5,892,905) Brandt et al, hereafter Brandt in view of (US 5,881,379) Beier et al, hereafter Beier.

As per claims 1, 5, and 10. Brandt teaches, A method performed in a Financial Service Organization (FSO) computer system, the method comprising: building a first key value from one or more data element values stored in a first memory in the FSO computer system (col. 13, lines 32-58; comparing the first key value to one or more key values stored in a second memory, wherein the second memory comprises one or more database identifier values each corresponding to a respective key value of the one or more key Values (col. 9, lines 53-64, col. 10, lines 51-65, col. 13, lines 50-58 and col.

Art Unit: 3624

14, lines 14-24); writing into a third memory a first database identifier value of the one or more database identifier values stored in the second memory in response to finding a match between the first key value and one of the one or more key values stored in the second memory (col. 14, lines 1-13 and col. 28, lines 9-32); wherein the one or more key values and the one or more database identifier values stored in the second memory are entered by a user of the FSO computer system during a configuration of the FSO computer system (col. 28, lines 57- col. 30, line 44).

Brandt failed to teach, accessing a first database in response to writing the first database identifier value into the third memory. Beier teaches, accessing a first database in response to writing the first database identifier value into the third memory (col. 4, lines 40- 67, col. 6, line 52- col. 7, line 40). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to access a first database in response to writing the first database identifier value into the third memory and to modify in Brandt because such a modification would allow Brandt's system to have and organized database with the unique identifier stored in memory.

As per claim 10, Brandt further teaches, a computer program (col. 1, lines 33-40); and FSO computer system (col. 2, lines 25-51); and wherein the computer program is executable on the FSO computer system (col. 2, lines 52-67, col. 3, lines 56-65, and col. 30, lines 52-67).

As per claims 2, 6, and 11. Brandt teaches, The method of claim 1, wherein the FSO computer system comprises a plurality of databases, wherein the plurality of databases includes the first database, wherein each of the plurality of databases

Art Unit: 3624

corresponds to a respective database identifier value, wherein one of the plurality of databases is an active database, wherein an active database identifier value corresponding to the active database is stored in a fourth memory, wherein the accessing the first database in response to writing the first database identifier value into the third memory comprises: comparing the first database identifier value in the third memory to the active database identifier value in the fourth memory (col. 31, line 58-col. 32, line 51); and setting the active database to the first database in response to the first database identifier value in the third memory not matching the active database identifier value in the fourth memory (col. 33, lines 2-31).

As per claims 3, 7, and 12. Brandt teaches, The method of claim 2, wherein setting the active database to the first database comprises setting the active database identifier value stored in the fourth memory to the first database identifier value from the third memory (col. 27, lines 5-64).

6. Claims 4, 8, 9, and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (US 5,892,905) Brandt et al, hereafter Brandt in view of (US 5,742,820) Perlman et al, hereafter Pearlman.

As per claims 4, 8, and 13. Brandt failed to teach, The method of claim 1, wherein the FSO computer system comprises a key definition comprising one or more data elements, wherein the first key value comprises one or more key fields, wherein the building the first key value from one or more data element values in the first memory in the FSO computer system comprises: reading a first data element value from the first memory, wherein a location of the first data element value in the first memory is defined

Art Unit: 3624

by a first data element from the key definition; and storing the first data element value in a first key field in the first key value in response to reading the first data element from the first memory. Perlman teaches, wherein the FSO computer system comprises a key definition comprising one or more data elements, wherein the first key value comprises one or more key fields, wherein the building the first key value from one or more data element values in the first memory in the FSO computer system comprises: reading a first data element value from the first memory (204), wherein a location of the first data element value in the first memory is defined by a first data element from the key definition (Figures 4A-B); and storing the first data element value in a first key field in the first key value in response to reading the first data element from the first memory (col. 3, lines 50-59, fig 7, and figs 4A-B). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to read a first data element value from the first memory, wherein a location of the first data element value in the first memory is defined by a first data element from the key definition and store the first data element value in a first key field in the first key value in response to reading the first data element from the first memory and to modify in Brandt because such a modification would allow Brandt to have a database identifier generated by a node of the computer network and distributed (written to other receiving nodes coupled to the network and to have the storage locations composed of random access memory (RAM) devices and an operating system with portions resident in memory.

As per claim 9, Brandt teaches, wherein the carrier medium is a memory medium (col. 10, lines 51-65).

Art Unit: 3624

As per claim 14, Brandt teaches, The method of claim 1, wherein configuration of the FSO computer system occurs during initial set up of the FSO computer system for processing software transactions (col. 2, lines 3-67 and col. 4, lines 1-15).

As per claim 15, Brandt teaches, The method of claim 1, wherein configuration of the FSO computer system occurs during reconfiguration of the FSO computer system (col. 6, lines 2-67).

As per claim 16, Brandt failed to teach, The method of claim 1, wherein the database identifier is used to point to a physical data storage location in the FSO database. Perlman teaches, The method of claim 1, wherein the database identifier is used to point to a physical data storage location in the FSO database (col. 4, lines 48-62, col. 5, line 39- col. 6, line 64). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the database identifier used to point to a physical data storage location in the FSO database and to modify in Brandt because such a modification would allow Brandt to a sequence number for corresponding data items of the database organized and stored in memory according to an identifier.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

**Conclusion**

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Socket et al (US 5,721,915) disclosed the reorganization of a database.

Kawagoe (US 6,438,563 B1) disclosed synchronizing databases in a network.

Weber (US 6,289,339) disclosed a notification message and a database.

**Inquiries**

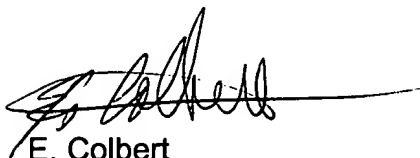
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ella Colbert whose telephone number is 703-308-7064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 6:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on 703-308-1038. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.



Art Unit: 3624

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Colbert', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

E. Colbert  
March 31, 2005